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Leyland Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1958

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L E Y L A N D U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

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1958/59

Chairman of the Council :-

Councillor J.B. HAIGH

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :-

Councillor Mrs. R.B. KELLEY, J.P.,

Councillor A. B. CHURCH
Councillor A. E. GROOM
Councillor J. B. HAIGH
Councillor Mrs. C. HOLT

Councillor W. M. JACKSON
Councillor I. E. ROBERTS
Councillor J. WELSBY, J.P.
Councillor R. WILKINSON

Clerk of the Council

-

T. K. CLAYTON (Solicitor)

W. C. F. GODSELL (Solicitor)
Since 1st March, 1959.

Medical Officer of Health

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D., also Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4, Lancashire County Council and Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Chorley and the Adlington, Fulwood, Longridge, Walton-le-Dale and Withnell Urban District Councils and to Preston and Chorley Rural District Councils.

Chief Public Health Inspector

G. WALSH, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
also Cleansing Superintendent
Petroleum Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector

F. R. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

74, TOWNGATE,

LEYLAND. Lancs.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council
of the Urban District of Leyland.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual
Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of
Leyland for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

The number of live births registered in the District during 1958 was
357 or 34 less than in the previous year. This gave a birth rate of 19.8
(19.0 adjusted) as compared with 16.4 for England and Wales. Although not
as high as last year, it will be noticed that the birth rate is still
considerably higher than the country as a whole.

The number of deaths was 19 more than the previous year, giving a
death rate of 10.8 (14.4 adjusted) as compared with 11.7 for the country
as a whole. The number of deaths from heart diseases increased by 11
from 54 to 65 and vascular lesions of the nervous system, which include
all forms of 'strokes' increased from 29 to 31. The number of deaths
from malignant diseases increased from 24 to 25.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 11
as compared with 10 in the year 1957. This gave an infantile mortality
rate of 30 as against a national average of 22.5.

As compared with none the previous year, there were three deaths from
Respiratory Tuberculosis.

The number of notifiable infectious diseases received was 131 as
compared with 112 in 1957. This is accounted for by a considerable
increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, there being 79
notifications as against 36 the previous year. The disease, however,
took a very mild form.

Turning to the sanitary circumstances, every effort continues to be made to maintain conditions favourable to health in spite of the industrial nature of the District.

Housing conditions on the whole are good and constant attention is given to the matter of dealing with those which fall short of requirements. The slum clearance programme, not a particularly heavy one, is proceeding according to plan. The Council has given approval to the provision of a scheme of bungalows for aged persons which will include accommodation for a Warden and certain welfare facilities for which the County Council will, in effect, be financially responsible.

The Council was at the end of the year still awaiting the report of the Consultant Engineers on the proposals to improve the sewage disposal and sewerage of the District.

The remaining provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, became operative during the year. Increasing importance is being attached to the harmful effects of atmospheric pollution on health. The Council should, therefore, implement the Act vigorously in order to rid the atmosphere of all possible pollution. Domestic fires make a considerable contribution to this problem and serious consideration should be given to the question of establishing Smoke Control Areas.

Food hygiene, including meat inspection, continues to occupy an important part of the duties of the Public Health Inspectors.

Details of other matters, many of which are taken for granted, but which play an important part in maintaining the health of a community, will be found in the body of the Report.

Mention should be made here of the resignation, in order to get married, of Miss D. Douglas who gave excellent service to the Health Department as clerk over a period of nine years. Miss O. Bennett was appointed in her place and is shaping well.

In conclusion I wish to express my indebtedness to Mr. G. Walsh, Chief Public Health Inspector, for the enthusiastic and capable manner in which he carries out all his duties. My thanks are also due to the other officers of the Council who so readily co-operate with me whenever the necessity arises.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

July, 1959

J. WALKER.

Physical Features of the Area

The Urban District comprises an irregular shaped area, with its greater diameter north and west. The height in the west is approximately 55 feet above the datum line rising in the east to 250 feet. On the whole, the area is level, and rises and falls are of a gentle nature.

Geologically, the district lies on a plain of Triassic Rock, upon which are deposited a Lower Boulder Clay layer, a layer of Middle Drift Sand, and an Upper Boulder Clay layer. In the southern part of the district, there is an outcrop of sand of considerable depth and approximately 400 yards in width. This outcrop dips steeply so that in the neighbourhood of Golden Hill it is some 80 feet below the surface. The three layers vary considerably in depth in different parts of the area.

Water is found in the Middle Drift Sand, and the presence of this probably accounted for the selection of this area by settlers in the distant past. The shallow wells in the sand layer became grossly contaminated and at one time gave rise to an outbreak of Enteric Disease.

In the Midge Hall area there is a layer of peat some 12 feet in depth overlying the three layers of Glacial Drift.

The River Lostock is the main natural drainage outlet for the district. Into it run several small brooks including the Wymott on the western side, Bryning Brook from the east with Shaw Brook and Hollins Brook in the south. Bryning Brook changes its name to Bow Brook and Bannister Brook during its course through the district, finally entering the River Lostock as Mill Brook. Shaw Brook becomes Wade Brook before entering the River.

Statistics of the Area

Area in Acres	3,804
Population (Registrar General's Estimate of Home Population Mid 1958)	18,030
Population (Census 1951)	14,719
Population (Census 1931)	10,573
Number of inhabited houses 1958 (estimated)	5,877
Number of dwellings occupied at 1951 Census	4,500
Total number of dwellings at 1951 Census (occupied and vacant)	4,586
Rateable Value 1957/1958	£187,044
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate 1957/1958	£751.9691

Social Conditions and Amenities of the District

There has been little change of note to record in this category. Speaking generally, the District enjoys a fairly high standard of prosperity among the working population and social conditions are generally fairly good.

For a District the size of this, however, it lacks many amenities enjoyed by other Districts of a similar population, which have not grown quite so quickly.

Vital Statistics

Births

<u>Live Births -</u>				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	181	171	352
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	3	5
Total	...	...	...	183	174	357
Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population				19.8		

Still Births

Legitimate	...	...	...	1	3	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total				1	3	4

Rate Per 1,000 total live and still births 11.1

Table of Vital Statistics - Live Births, Deaths and Stillbirths

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths	
	No. Regis- tered.	Rate Per 1,000 Pop'n.	No. Regis- tered.	Rate Per 1,000 Pop'n.	No. Regis- tered.	Rate Per 1,000 Total Births
Year 1958	357	19.8	194	10.8	4	11
" 1957	391	22.0	175	9.8	11	27
" 1956	357	20.5	192	11.0	10	27
" 1955	311	18.8	182	11.0	9	28
" 1954	308	19.2	192	12.0	4	13
" 1953	237	15.9	164	11.0	10	40
Average 5 years 1953 - 1957	321	19.2	181	10.9	9	27

The birth and death rates shown in the previous and subsequent tables are known as 'crude' rates. The Registrar General issues a comparability factor based on age and distribution of population which, when multiplied by the 'crude' rates enables a true comparison to be made between the vital statistics of one area and another. The adjusted rates for this area are therefore as follows, allowing for a birth comparability factor of 0.96 and 1.34 for deaths.

Adjusted Birth Rate 19.0 Per 1,000 Pop'n.

Adjusted Death Rate 14.4 Per 1,000 Pop'n.

Table of Vital Statistics
Maternal and Infant Mortality

	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
			Total Under 1 year		Neo-Natal Under 4 weeks	
	No. of deaths Registered	Rate Per 1,000 Total Births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births
Year 1958	Nil	Nil	11	30	9	25
" 1957	1	2.49	10	26	8	20
" 1956	1	2.72	8	22	6	17
" 1955	Nil	Nil	3	10	2	6
" 1954	1	3.21	8	26	2	6
" 1953	Nil	Nil	4	17	4	17
Average 5 years 1953 - 1957	-	1.68	7	20	4	13

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for
Leyland, Lancashire and England and Wales

	Per 1,000 of Population		Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
	Live Birth Rate (Adjusted)	Death Rate (Adjusted)	Per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	Per 1,000 Live Births
Leyland Average 5 years 1953 - 1957 ...	19.1	13.2	1.68	20
1958 ...	19.0	14.4	Nil	30
Lancashire 1958	16.49	13.87	0.45	25.6
England and Wales 1958	16.4	11.7	0.43	22.5

Analysis of Causes of Death

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	3	-	3
Malignant Diseases	14	11	25
Leukaemia	-	2	2
Diabetes	2	1	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	18	13	31
Heart Diseases	37	28	65
Diseases of Circulatory System	3	3	6
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis	8	4	12
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	-	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	1	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Congenital Malformations	2	1	3
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	13	7	20
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	3	2	5
Suicide	1	1	2
	117	77	194

Diseases of the heart were once again the main cause of death in both males and females.

Deaths from malignant diseases were one more than the previous year.

Bronchitis and pneumonia caused respectively 12 and 5 deaths.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system produced 31 deaths. These deaths include all forms of 'strokes'.

Infantile Mortality

There were 11 deaths of infants under 1 year as compared with 10 in the previous year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 30 per 1,000 live births as compared with 26 the previous year. The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 22.5. The cause of death of the eleven infants is given below.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
M	6 Days	Ia. Partial atelectasis II. Prematurity
M	6 Hours	Ia. Anencephaly
M	9 Hours	Ia. Prematurity
M	1 Day	Ia. Prematurity
M	9 Hours	Ia. Atelectasis of the lungs.
M	45 Minutes	Ia. Prematurity
M	6 Days	Ia. Intracranial Haemorrhage
M	3 Days	Ia. Atelectasis b. Prematurity
F	5 Days	Ia. Coma b. Congenital Heart Disease
F	6 Months	Misadventure. Asphyxia due to pressure of a pillow against the nose and mouth when asleep in bed.
M	6 Months	Ia. Toxaemia. b. Congenital megacolon II. Congenital polycystic rt. kidney.

Tuberculosis

The table below gives age and sex distribution of the new cases and deaths.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1			1					
2				1				
5				1				
10		1						
15								
20		1						
25	1	1		1	1			
35	2	2						
45								
55	1							
65					1			
75 up-wards					1			
Totals	4	5	1	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

The death rate from respiratory tuberculosis is 0.17, there being no deaths for the non-respiratory form of the disease. The comparative figures for England and Wales are respiratory 0.09 and non-respiratory 0.01.

There were 13 primary notifications (9 respiratory and 4 non-respiratory) during the year.

Eleven persons were removed from the Register during the current year and the number of people remaining is shown below.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Male	Female	Male	Female
40	25	10	14
Totals 65		24	

Comparative Table of Tuberculosis Death Rates
for Leyland, Lancashire and England and Wales.

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population		
	Death Rate from Resp- iratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Non- Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis
Leyland Average 5 years 1953 - 1957 ...	0.05	0.01	0.06
1957 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958 ...	0.17	Nil	0.17
Lancashire 1958	0.10	0.01	0.11
England and Wales 1958	0.09	0.01	0.10

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Services

The laboratory of Preston Royal Infirmary was used to examine specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious diseases, pathological specimens for ordinary diseases and for the bacteriological examination of milks, for tests for Tubercle Bacillus in milks and for tests for ice cream, for the greater part of the year.

On the 8th December, 1958, however, a new Laboratory was opened in Meadow Street, Preston, forming part of the nation's Public Health Laboratory Service with its own Director. This Laboratory will eventually serve a very wide area in the North West of England.

Hospital Accommodation

Infectious Diseases are normally admitted to the Deepdale Isolation Hospital although, in cases of emergency, Isolation Hospitals further afield may have to be utilised. The number of infectious diseases admitted in 1958 was 40.

General Disease. Five hospitals were available for patients in this district.

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| (1) Preston Royal Infirmary |) | |
| (2) Chorley Hospital |) | Administered by the Preston |
| (3) Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston |) | and Chorley Hospital |
| (4) Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley |) | Management Committee. |
| | | |
| (5) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street, Preston | | (For private patients) |

Venereal Diseases. Clinics are held at the Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice and treatment are free and confidential.

Services Provided by the County Council

The following services are administered on behalf of the Lancashire County Council by Health Division No. 4. Medical Officer: Dr. J. Walker, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood. Telephone: Preston 77263.

Ambulance Facilities

There are three ambulances and one sitting case car stationed at the Ambulance Station, Leyland. The work done by this station covers the area of the Urban District and surrounding districts. The ambulance service is now radio controlled from the Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

A new Ambulance Station is under construction in Moss Lane, Leyland, which will replace the present station sited behind the Public Hall, Towngate. This is part of the County Council's scheme for re-organising the service and it will eventually serve a much wider area than at present.

Home Nursing Service

There are three female district nurses in the area. Their duties include care of patients in their own homes and arrangements for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases.

Midwifery Service

There are two domiciliary midwives who attend expectant mothers confined at home. One midwife is resident in Leyland and another in the Chorley Rural District adjacent to Leyland.

At the end of the year an additional midwife had been appointed to commence duty in 1959.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are employed in Leyland and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity and tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

Ante-Natal Clinic

There is a weekly session held each Thursday at the School Clinic, 5/7 Somerset Road, Leyland, when a consultant obstetrician employed by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee attends.

Child Welfare Centres

There are weekly child welfare sessions held at the following Centres every Wednesday afternoon.

Congregational Sunday School,	Quin Street
Methodist Church Hall,	Leyland Lane

A doctor and health visitor attend and give advice on infant care and management. Baby foods are sold at the Centres.

School Medical Service

Medical and Hygiene inspections are carried out at the schools and clinic sessions are held at 5/7, Somerset Road for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

Clinic Facilities

Arising out of consideration of my Annual Report for 1957 the Council decided to make representations to the County Council on the present inadequate and unsatisfactory accommodation at the Ante-natal Clinic (Somerset Road) and the Child Welfare Centre (Quin Street). Since then the matter has received press publicity as well as careful consideration by the appropriate Committees of the County Council. The outcome of all this is that provision has been made for a new Centre to be built earlier than originally intended.

Convalescent Care

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

Welfare Services

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted. A handicraft and social centre for handicapped persons is held in Leyland each fortnight on Monday evenings in the Civil Defence Centre, Council Depot.

Day Nurseries

The County Council operate two Day Nurseries in Leyland, one in Golden Hill Lane with accommodation for 51 children and the other in Yewlands Drive with accommodation for 50 children.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It has not been necessary to recommend the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention as envisaged by Section 47 of the above Act. This procedure involves the making of Court Orders and would only be used as a last resort. There were one or two cases, however, where this procedure was seriously considered but the difficulties were overcome and it was possible to make satisfactory arrangements without resorting to statutory action.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The table below gives an analysis of notified cases.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Puer- Peral Pyrexia	Acute Enceph- alitis.	Totals
Under 1	-	1	-	-	1
1 -	-	2	-	-	2
2 -	4	1	-	-	5
3 -	7	8	-	-	15
4 -	11	4	-	-	15
5 -	55	31	-	1	87
10 -	2	1	-	-	3
15 -	-	-	2	-	2
25 -	-	1	-	-	1
45 -	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-
Total cases all ages	79	49	2	1	131
Total cases removed to Hospital	38	-	2	-	40
Total Deaths	-	-	-	-	-

It will be noted that once again there were no deaths from any of the infectious diseases shown in the table.

It will be noted that there was a large increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, which rose from 36 to 79. As mentioned in the introduction, all these cases were very mild indeed, recovering very quickly after treatment.

The 49 cases of Measles as compared with 44 the previous year showed a slight increase. No cases of Whooping Cough were reported as compared with 24 last year. The trend of notifications of these two diseases may be seen from the following table.

	Measles	Whooping Cough
1958	49	-
1957	44	24
1956	433	45
1955	166	16
1954	82	72
1953	22	114
1952	280	25

It is pleasing to report there were no cases of Food Poisoning during the year. At one of the Junior Schools, however, information was received of an excessive number of children absent due to vomiting. Investigations showed that some of these children had partaken of school meals whilst others had not. As a check, however, portions of the meal supplied to the children over the previous two days and specimens from two of the cases were submitted to the Laboratory for analysis. In no case could there be found any specific organism which might have caused the illness. It was finally concluded that this must have been an outbreak of epidemic nausea and vomiting, the spread of which is not completely understood.

FOOD

Milk

Routine sampling was carried out of all milk on sale to the general public within the district. The district became incorporated in a 'Specified Area' on the 10th April, 1956, which required all milk sold by retail to be 'specially designated' i.e., either Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested.

Thirteen samples of Pasteurised milk were examined and satisfied the phosphatase test which indicated they had been satisfactorily heat treated and therefore free from infection. A further methylene blue test indicated that all the samples were of a satisfactory state of cleanliness.

Six Sterilised samples were subjected to a turbidity test which indicated they had been rendered sterile before sale.

A total of 7 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were examined, all of which satisfied the methylene blue reductase test.

Seven biological examinations were made for the presence of live tuberculosis in the raw milks and it is pleasing to report that as in the previous year no tuberculosis was found in any of the samples. There was, therefore, no necessity to serve any notices under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring milk to be heat treated on the grounds that tuberculosis was present.

The County Sampling Officer, Mr. A. Kewley, assisted by the Council's Public Health Inspectors, took 46 formal samples of milk in the district to be examined for adulteration (added water) and fat deficiency. Of these 40 were genuine in all respects and the results of the other samples along with action taken by the County Council are shown below.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Milk	Fat 2.90%, deficient 3.3%	Vendor notified
1 Milk	Fat 2.90%, deficient 3.3%	Vendor notified
1 Milk	Fat 2.95%, deficient 1.6%	Vendor notified
1 Milk	Bottle contained 0.08 gm. cement adhering to inside.	Vendor cautioned
1 Milk	Fat 2.90%, deficient 3.3%	Vendor notified
1 Milk	Fat 2.80%, deficient 6.6%	Vendor notified

Meat

The two licensed slaughterhouses continued in use throughout the year. At Leyland Lane, cattle, sheep and pigs are slaughtered but the Fox Lane establishment continues to be used solely for the slaughtering of sheep.

As will be seen from the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector there was a one hundred per cent inspection by qualified staff of all animals killed at the slaughterhouses in the district. A total of $17\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. of butchers meat and offal were rejected by the Public Health Inspectors as being either diseased or otherwise unsound.

Other Foods

Inspections were made regularly of all premises where food was prepared, sold or stored and the following table has been prepared to indicate the number of various types of food businesses.

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number</u>
General grocers and provision dealers	58
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.)	12
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc.)	3
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	18
Bakers and/or confectioners	13
Fried fish shops	13
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	15
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar establishments.	43
Others	10

Approximately $4\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. of foods other than butchers meat were voluntarily surrendered to the Public Health Inspectors as unfit for human consumption.

The County Sampling Officer took the following 46 samples of other foods and drugs for laboratory examination.

2 Pudding Mixture	2 Castor Oil
1 Condensed Milk	2 Ice-cream
1 Syrup	2 Butter
2 Malt extract and cod liver oil	3 Meat - canned
1 Cherry Brandy	3 Boric ointment
1 Cream of tartar	1 Pork sausages
1 Cooking fat	4 Canned vegetables
1 Lard	1 Tincture of iodine
2 Sweets	1 Decolourised iodine
3 Flour confectionery	2 Cheese
2 Margarine	2 Coffee
2 Cream - canned	2 British wines
	2 Salad dressing

All the samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Unsealed miniature bottle of Cherry Brandy.	Contained seven dead flies of various species.	Importers and retailers communicated with.
Portion of teacake with jam on.	Contained a pin 29 mm. long. Did not have the appearance of being cooked in the teacake.	No action taken.
Pork sausages.	Contained 195 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed.
Can of Peas (open)	Contained two pieces of matted vegetable debris heavily infested with fungus hyphae weighing 1.6 gms. Liquid in tin was sour and had a pH value of 4.3 and contained fungus hyphae when received in laboratory. Foreign matter probably derived from pea-washing plant.	Packers communicated with.

Ice Cream

The following tabulated results show that this product is maintaining a high bacteriological standard. Grades 1 and 2 are regarded as satisfactory and only a continued appearance of an ice cream in grades 3 and 4 would indicate some fault in manufacture.

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Grade 1	11	8	7	6	5
" 2	4	3	3	2	2
" 3	-	-	-	-	3
" 4	-	-	-	-	-
Total	15	11	10	8	10

Food Hygiene

Regular visits and inspections have been made throughout the year of all food premises regarding the implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1956. It was not necessary to institute proceedings and there has been a marked improvement in the manner in which food is handled and stored before sale.

WATER SUPPLY

In presenting this portion of my report I should like to thank the Water Engineer, Mr. F.D. Howe, for providing statistics and other information.

Throughout the year the water supply in the District was obtained mainly from the Manchester Corporation's Undertaking. The Council's own boreholes at Clayton-le-Woods were, however, maintained for use as a standby should this become necessary and amounted to an average of less than 1% of the total consumption.

Following the Government's proposals that water undertakings should discuss amalgamation among themselves in order to improve the water supply in general, it was agreed that this Authority should enter into negotiations with Preston Corporation and other adjoining Authorities with a view to creating a new Water Board for Preston and District. By the end of the year negotiations had reached an advanced stage and it was fairly obvious that a new Water Board would be created.

The following table shows details of the water consumption in gallons during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1958.

	Domestic	Trade	Total
For Year	193,972,000	114,435,000	308,407,000
Average Per Day	531,000	313,000	844,000
Average Per Head Per Day	29.5	17.3	46.8

Quality

The water supplied from the Manchester Acqueduct is given further chlorination before entering the storage reservoirs. Negotiations are in progress with the Preston Rural District Council for the installation of a combined chlorination plant to replace the present drip feed method. Of 12 bacteriological examinations carried out by the Council's Consultants on the raw water, 11 were satisfactory and one was not of the standard of a town's supply. Of the 5 samples taken from the water supply to the district, however, all were satisfactory.

The following is a record of a chemical analysis taken in August of water in the town's supply.

Expressed in Parts Per 100,000

Total Solids	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.4
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.1
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.6
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	...	.5
Combined Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.8
Nitrous Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	.06
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	.0016
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours @ 27°C	...	...	...	...	...	...	.07
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
pH	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.9

Mains Extensions

In order to cater for Housing Estate Development the following new mains were laid.

230 yards - 3"

Supplies to Houses

There were 93 houses newly connected during the year, 45 of these being new houses built for the Local Authority and 48 for private ownership.

At the end of the year the number of dwellinghouses connected direct to the public mains was 5,874 serving an estimated population of 18,026. There were no houses in the district served by means of a standpipe.

General

The water has no liability to plumbo-solvency.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A new 9" sewer was constructed in Longmeanygate from a point near the Earnshaw Bridge Mill and extending for 534 yards in a westerly direction to a point near to Poplar House. The work was completed at the end of the year and will enable some much needed pail conversions and septic tank conversions to take place.

The Council's Consulting Engineers, Messrs. A.J. Lomax & Son, indicated towards the end of the year that their investigations into the extensions required at the sewage disposal works were completed and that their report would be presented to the Council early in 1959.

Closet Accommodation

The following comparative table shows the position for dwellinghouses.

Type of Closet	1920	1930	1940	1950	1956	1957	1958
Freshwater	802	2128	3506	4285	5553	5626	5726
Waste Water	11	11	11	10	5	1	8
all Pail (premises)	488	374	157	158	109	106	98
Privy	809	291	209	66	65	65	65

PRIVATE STREETS AND BACK PASSAGES

The Council proposed, during the year, to make up the Chapel Brow Group 2 series of streets which comprised the following.

Grundy Street
Hewitt Street
Spring Street
Fleetwood Street
Gas Terrace

Back passages associated
with the above streets.

When the proposals, however, were submitted to the Ministry for approval, it was indicated that this would not be given unless a Certificate was obtained from the Medical Officer of Health indicating that such street works were necessary to prevent injury to health. I accordingly examined the streets in question and issued a form of Certificate which was sent to the Ministry, who finally approved the proposals.

The private estate developer to the East of Bent Lane extended the new street, Glamis Road, and created a new street to be known as Knowsley Road. Kerbs, channels and drainage are completed for these new roads but have not yet been surfaced.

SCHOOLS

The following is a list of schools open in the District. No new schools were started during the year.

Balshaw's Grammar School	Church Road
Leyland Earnshaw Bridge County Infants	Earnshaw Drive
Leyland Broadfield County Junior	Haig Avenue
Leyland County Junior	Fox Lane
Leyland County Secondary	Yewlands Drive
Methodist Primary	Turpin Green Lane
St. Andrew's Infants C. of E.	Fox Lane
St. James' C. of E. Primary	Moss Side
St. Mary's R.C. Primary	School Lane
St. Mary's R.C. Secondary Modern	Royal Avenue
Worden County Secondary	Westfield Drive

HOUSING

The following table shows the number of new houses completed during the year ended 31st December, 1958.

	Permanent Houses	Flats	Total
By the L.A.	1	44	45
By other L.A's.	-	-	-
Other bodies or persons	48	-	48
Totals	49	44	93

Improvement Grants

The following table has been prepared from information supplied by the Surveyor's Department who deal with all formal applications for assistance under this scheme.

	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
Submitted by private individuals to local authority	11	11	-	-
Approved by local authority	11	11	-	-
Submitted by local authority to Ministry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Finally approved by Ministry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Work completed +	18	18	Nil	Nil
Additional separate dwellings included in + above	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year

Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)

76

No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose

182

Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :-

No. found during year

17

No. (or estimated No.) at end of year

51

No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit

26

Houses demolished

Houses Demolished

Displaced during Year
Persons Families.

In Clearance Areas :

1. Houses Unfit for Human Habitation
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.
3. Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957.

10

30

8

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Not in Clearance Areas :

4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957.

6

18

7

Unfit Houses Closed

Number

1. Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957.
2. Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957.
3. Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957.

1

1

1

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in
which Defects were Remedied :-

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
1. After informal action by local authority	41	-
2. After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts	4	1
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957.	2	Nil
3. Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957.	Nil	-

Houses in Clearance Areas

A reference was made in the 1957 Report to the No. 3 and No. 4 Heaton Street Clearance Areas and to the Leyland Urban District Council Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957 which, in addition to the above areas, included two fit houses, one individually unfit house and the land upon which three previously demolished houses had stood. The total number of houses involved in this Compulsory Purchase Order was twelve.

The administrative work of serving notices was undertaken and one owner objected to the Council's proposals. The objection, which was in regard to the general shop No. 4, Heaton Street, was based on the grounds that the Council were not offering suitable business premises elsewhere in the District as an alternative. The objection was sent to the Minister and in due course information was received that an enquiry would be held at the Council Offices in June on the proposals. I, along with the Clerk and the Chief Public Health Inspector, appeared at this enquiry representing the Council. The objection was heard and this was followed by an inspection of the site by the Minister's Inspector. In September, information was received from the Minister that the Council's proposals had been approved without modification. The work of re-housing occupiers from these areas started towards the end of the year.

Housing of the Aged

It is pleasing to report that the Council have agreed to provide 30 bungalows which, in accordance with the County Council scheme, will incorporate certain welfare facilities including a resident warden.

CLEAN AIR

With the bringing into force of the full provisions of the Clean Air Act, a meeting of all Public Health Inspectors in the Division was called to discuss the situation. A full discussion of the implications of the Act ensued and different interpretations of its implementation were considered. Such meetings are very useful indeed as, in addition to spreading information, the officers of different Authorities are made aware of each others intentions and widely differing interpretations of the same Act are obviated.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES

The following tables show the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, within the District.

Type of Factory	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Non-mechanical	15	12	Nil	Nil
Mechanical	52	46	2	Nil
Building Sites	3	4	Nil	Nil
Total	70	62	2	Nil

	Defects		Cases referred		No. of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	to H.M. Insp.	by H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	10	10	-	-	Nil
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	Nil
Ineffective drainage to floors	-	-	-	-	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	3	-	-	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	Nil
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	Nil
Total	14	13	Nil	Nil	Nil

The Factories Acts are administered by two separate bodies - Local Authorities and H.M. Inspectorate. The degree of control exercised by the Local Authority varies with the type of factory i.e. whether or not there is mechanical power installed. A close liaison is therefore maintained with H.M. Inspectors on such matters.

NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT

Although there were no houses completed during the year on the Wade Hall Estate, the construction of a further 71 houses was commenced to provide accommodation for families from the County Borough of Preston.

Following the demolition of houses in the Fox Lane Clearance Order, some further sites became available and it was agreed that a further 8 houses should be built as part of the overspill scheme.

The following is a record of the number of dwellings occupied each year since the inception of the scheme.

Year	Houses	Flats	Maisonettes	Total
1953	142	-	-	142
1954	116	-	-	116
1955	147	20	-	167
1956	70	12	5	87
1957	-	-	1	1
1958	-	-	-	-

Total dwellings occupied by end of 1958 513

With regard to other facilities on the estate, there are 6 shops in Royal Avenue and 37 garages distributed on 4 different sites around the estate.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following new legislation, which is of interest to Public Health Departments, was enacted during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

This Act provides, inter alia, for Exchequer subsidies for dwellings provided for the purpose of slum clearance and for Exchequer contributions for dwellings improved or purchased by Local Authorities. A further part of the Act outlines the financial assistance which may be given to privately owned houses for the purpose of making improvements to the property.

Local Government Act, 1958.

With regard to Public Health matters, the Act sets out the procedure to be adopted where County Councils delegate their health and welfare functions to County District Councils. No delegation of functions by the Lancashire County Council, however, is contemplated for this District. A further section abolishes the compulsory County contributions towards the salaries of Medical Officers of Health and Public Health Inspectors of County Districts.

Water Act, 1958.

This Act confers powers on the Minister of Housing and Local Government to authorise a water undertaking to obtain water from any specified source to meet deficiencies in supply provided this is due to drought conditions.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

This Act further strengthens the legislation controlling slaughterhouse facilities. Construction standards for hygiene and prevention of cruelty are to be enacted and when these new Regulations are made they will apply to new slaughterhouses at once, and to existing slaughterhouses on dates to be appointed later by the Minister for each Local Authority or District. No dwellinghouse will be allowed to be attached to a slaughter hall apart from certain exceptions. All slaughterhouses are to be brought within the Factories Act legislation concerning safety and welfare.

In due course, each Local Authority will be required to review and report to the Minister on the existing and probable future requirements for slaughterhouse facilities and facilities which are likely to become available to meet them. The Report will recommend a date on which new construction standards and prevention of cruelty to animals will apply in their area. Where public slaughterhouses have been provided, certain powers are given to Local Authorities to restrict the use of private slaughterhouses.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

This Act consolidates certain previous legislation and also brings about some changes. In the licence to slaughter, for example, it is now possible to grant a modified licence to a person requiring him to be under the supervision of the holder of a full licence. This will cover the transitional period when a person is learning the trade. Power is also given to make regulations for prescribing qualifications for persons holding licences to slaughter.

Slaughter of Animals (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

These are concerned with the hygienic construction, layout and equipment and the practices to be observed in slaughterhouses. Those dealing with construction and equipment come into force for all new slaughterhouses immediately. In the case of existing slaughterhouses these are deferred until a date appointed by the Minister. Those concerned with hygienic practices, however, are in force immediately at all slaughterhouses. These will require some changes in practice to the slaughterhouses in Leyland.

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

These require that a general improvement in the accommodation is to be provided for live animals, and one of the most far reaching requirements is that slaughterhouses used for slaughtering cattle shall be provided with a stunning pen. A temporary reprieve, however, is given to existing slaughterhouses from this requirement. This is in two stages, the first being a period of grace up to an "appointed date" under the Slaughterhouses Act of 1958, and secondly a Certificate exempting the slaughterhouse from this requirement for the time being granted after that date. In no case, however, can any exemption from this requirement have effect after the 1st January, 1963.

Slaughter of Animals (Anaesthesia) Regulations, 1958.

These, briefly, allow for the use of Carbon Dioxide gas for anaesthetising pigs prior to slaughter. Previously, this system has not been legal in this country and it brings us into line with practice in the United States of America and Scandinavian countries.

The Slaughterhouse (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations, 1958.

Where it is apparent that the amount of meat slaughtered in a District exceeds that which could be regarded as being required for normal consumption, the Minister may make a grant towards the cost of the meat inspection service.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

74, TOWNGATE,

LEYLAND.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year ended 31st December, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council
of the Urban District of Leyland.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit to you the following report for the year 1958.

Contained in the body of the report will be found various statistics, many of which tell their own story. The following comments on certain aspects of public health matters may be controversial but are presented as a point of view and do not necessarily represent the views of the Council as a whole.

The decision to extend the sewer for a further distance of approximately 350 yards in Longmeanygate, details of which are given in the report, was a great step forward. It is almost 20 years since similar work of that nature was done. There have, of course, been new sewers laid for land which is about to be developed both by the Local Authority and by private builders. Whilst this procedure is eminently desirable where development is about to take place there is, I think, a tendency to give a low priority to the work of sewerage the outlying districts. As an officer concerned mainly with conditions of environment as it affects the public health, schemes for dealing with unsewered areas must have my wholehearted support.

It is, of course, a statutory duty of a Local Authority to provide such public sewers as may be necessary for effectually draining their district, whereas it is not generally realised that a Local Authority is not required to provide sewers in anticipation of future developments. There is no doubt that, to sewer sparsely populated areas will not "pay" in the ordinary sense of the word and if the capital cost is calculated on a house to house basis, it will always appear excessive. I often feel that our forerunners in Local Government must have been faced with this problem when deciding whether or not to lay water mains to these areas. The temptation must have been strong to confine their activities to heavily built up parts of the district so that a quick return could be made on the capital cost. They had the courage to lay water to these "uneconomic" areas and I do not think anyone would now quarrel with that decision.

It is, in my opinion, a logical extension of a principle that, where a Local Authority provide a water supply they should also be actively concerned in ensuring that the waste water from that house is disposed of in a satisfactory manner. It may perhaps be thought that houses not served by main sewer enjoy some differential in their rateable value. I am assured this is not the case as the present basis for assessing rateable value for dwellinghouses is the rent that could reasonably expect to apply in 1939. The house, therefore, may have water borne drainage discharging to a septic tank which in turn is overflowing to a watercourse and causing nuisance somewhere else. A house such as this has all the apparent amenities of a house connected to the main sewer from the point of view of an occupier and there would, therefore, be no differential in the rates. The owners of such property, however, have in many cases for years paid their share of the sewerage and sewage disposal rate without obtaining any direct benefit. On the other hand, the ability of a Local Authority to embark on and finance sewerage schemes is a question for the elected representative to decide after taking into consideration all the facts. An eminent judge once said, however, in a case heard at the close of the last century, "In my opinion, no district can be said to be satisfactorily drained, or effectually drained, where any part of the drainage of the district causes a nuisance, so that if the drainage running through any open ditch or stream causes that ditch or stream to be offensive then, as long as that state exists, it seems to me the district cannot be said to be effectually drained for the purposes of the Act."

Some comments have been made in the report on the practice of Sunday slaughtering. This problem varies considerably in different parts of the country, and Local Authority associations are now beginning to press for some control. The meat trade, however, is on the whole actively opposed to any restriction on the hours of slaughter and until the question is resolved by our legislators there is little hope of any respite from such duties. It will be noted that we continue to mark all meat slaughtered in the district, when this has been passed as being fit for human consumption. I often wonder why more Local Authorities do not use such a scheme and why it has not been made compulsory for all meat to be so stamped after inspection. It serves a dual purpose as the Inspector concerned is virtually placing his signature on a carcase that it is fit for food and this must be of considerable help when meat is moved from one district to another. It also safeguards the butcher should there be any question as to the fitness or otherwise of the meat. The universal use of a mark would very quickly make the illicit slaughter of animals simply not worthwhile as, without a mark, any carcase would be extremely suspect.

Further to my remarks on clean air in the body of the report, a decision by a Local Authority to embark upon a scheme for Smoke Control Areas should only be taken after very careful consideration. From reports already coming in from different parts of the country, it is obvious that there is much vociferous opinion against the creation of such areas. No one has criticized the decision that industry must comply with the Act, but there are many, many people who will not allow their own freedom to pollute the air to be interfered with. Such people consider they have the right to pour out

smoke from their house chimneys simply because they have always done it, although such persons would be the first to admit that it would be wrong to throw out their domestic garbage into the street. The principle is the same. Eminent scientific bodies and impartial committees have published accounts of the cost to the community of this pollution in terms of health, material damage and discomfort. I think the ultimate answer will lie in progressive Local Authorities setting up Smoke Control Areas in spite of the opposition, so that after a few years of enjoying the amenities which a cleaner air will bring, the people themselves will begin to demand that such amenities should continue.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, continued to be dealt with. They were not excessive, and there is no doubt that a tenant has been given considerable powers to require repairs to be done to his satisfaction. The different procedures allowed for in the Act require a multitude of statutory forms, there being 21 different types. It became apparent during the year that many forms required by both tenants and landlords were not readily available from private sources. It was, therefore, decided that the Public Health Department should obtain and stock a supply of forms for re-sale to the public.

The collection and disposal of household refuse continues to be an important function of the Department. A considerable sideline had developed in the sale of materials salvaged from the waste and it is pleasing to show that over £5,000 was recovered from this source.

In concluding these remarks, I am conscious of the fact that many matters with which we deal have received scant recognition in these pages. Much work is done under the heading of "Environmental Hygiene" which cannot be reduced into figures.

My own personal thanks are due to all members of the Public Health Department and in particular the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. F.R. Smith. It was a considerable shock when Miss Douglas, after so many years in the Department, resigned on leaving the District. It was with pleasure that we welcomed Miss R.O. Bennett, who very quickly interested herself in the affairs of the Department which augurs well for the future. Relations with other Departments continued to be cordial and in all cases where co-operation was asked for, this was gladly given.

After many years as Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Dr. Fotheringham decided not to seek re-election in May 1958. It would be invidious of me to attempt to ~~en~~umerate his qualities, suffice it to say that his services to the Council, and the Public Health Committee in particular, will be missed. The new Chairman, Councillor Mrs. R.B. Kelley, J.P., appointed in his place, was already well versed in the duties of the Department and my thanks are due to her, all members of the Committee, and of the Council, for the manner in which they have received me during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

G. WALSH.

Chief Public Health Inspector
Cleansing Superintendent.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS VISITS.

The figures below tabulate those everyday visits some of which are to investigate complaints and others to make the routine visits of inspection necessary for ensuring a proper compliance with public health law and practice.

These visits initiate many improvements without the necessity to report to the Council for formal or statutory action.

Inspections to Dwelling-houses	182
Verminous Premises	14
Infectious Disease	34
Dairies, Milk Shops etc.	14
Food and Food Premises	363
Slaughterhouses	133
Factories and Workshops	9
Milk Sampling	13
Ice Cream Premises	6
Licensed Premises	12
Smoke Observations	12
Caravans	11
Shops	226
Drain Inspections	189
Drain Testing	69
Rodent Control	173
Hawkers	9
Public Cleansing	460
Other Visits	<u>265</u> <u>2194</u>

HOUSING.

The task of dealing with the unfit houses in the District proceeded steadily throughout the year. Leyland is fortunate in that the standard of housing generally is fairly high, much of it being of comparatively modern construction. There are, however, still some pockets or small groups of houses which have reached the end of their natural life and which would cost far more to repair than such houses are worth. The following details show the progress made during the year.

Fox Lane Clearance.

The two Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government at the end of 1957 involved a total of ten houses namely, 235 - 243 and 249 - 257, Fox Lane. The task of re-housing occupants proceeded satisfactorily and by October not only had the houses been vacated, they had also been demolished and the sites cleared.

Heaton Street Clearance.

The Council's proposals to acquire compulsorily the land upon which these houses stood received the Minister's consent in September. The Council had made an Order, known as the Leyland Urban District Council (Heaton Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957, and a public enquiry was held in June at the Public Hall, Leyland, when these proposals were examined in detail and objectors heard. I, along with the Medical Officer of Health and the Clerk, gave evidence on behalf of the Council. After the Minister's approval in September it became the Local Authority's duty to re-house the occupants and by the end of the year four families had been re-housed. The total number of houses involved in this Order was twelve, commencing with the house and shop at No. 4, to the dwellinghouse No. 14, Heaton Street.

Clearance of Individually Unfit Houses.

The administrative procedure for dealing with unfit houses as "individually unfit" is much simpler than that for Clearance Areas. It is not necessary in such cases to apply to the Minister for confirmation or to prepare elaborate and detailed maps. The rights of owners and other interested parties are adequately safeguarded and new houses built by the Local Authority as a replacement are subject to the same subsidy as those built for Clearance Areas. In view of these factors and where conditions are appropriate, the "individually unfit" procedure is, I think, to be preferred.

The following are the houses dealt with during the year in this category.

292/294 Leyland Lane	Demolition Order
115 Towngate	Demolition Order
117 Towngate	Demolition Order
119 Towngate	Demolition Order
121 Towngate	Demolition Order
174 Leyland Lane	Demolition Order
176 Leyland Lane	Demolition Order
14 Heaton Street	Demolition Order
258 Golden Hill Lane	Demolition Order
260 Golden Hill Lane	Demolition Order
262 Golden Hill Lane	Demolition Order

In the case of 292/294, Leyland Lane, following representations from the owner the Council agreed to delay actually enforcing demolition of these two houses in order to enable them to be used as temporary stores for building materials in connection with the new housing estate being developed on the land.

The four houses 115/121, Towngate were vacated by the occupants and demolished. Adequate compensation was paid to the occupier of the sweet shop at No. 117.

The tenants of each of the two houses 174/176, Leyland Lane were re-housed in one bedroomed flats and the houses demolished.

The house numbered 14, Heaton Street, although forming part of the Compulsory Purchase Order to which reference has already been made, was condemned as a dwelling house under the "individually unfit" procedure in order to satisfy certain provisions of the Housing Act of 1957. The occupants were re-housed during the year but the building itself will be dealt with along with the remainder of the houses when the Council obtain possession of the land.

Of the three houses 258/262, Golden Hill Lane, two had been vacated and no further action could be taken until the remaining tenant had been re-housed.

Repairs

Following the making of a Closing Order in 1957 on one of a pair of semi-detached cottages in Golden Hill Lane, the owner decided to renovate both houses and bring them up to a reasonable standard. After completion of the work the Closing Order was cancelled.

A total of 41 houses were made fit as a result of informal approaches to the owners, listing works of repair required to make the houses fit. In five cases, however, it was necessary to ask for authority to serve statutory notices requiring certain works to be carried out under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. In four cases these were complied with by the owner, but in one case the Local Authority had to carry out the work in default and charge the owner with the cost.

Rent Act, 1957.

The tabulated information below shows the number of applications to the Local Authority for Certificates of Disrepair. These Certificates are issued where a landlord has not carried out the repairs as listed in the first place by the tenant. The granting of a Certificate of Disrepair enables the tenant to reduce his rent considerably until the repairs are carried out.

Number of applications for certificates	17
Number of decisions not to issue certificates	1
Number of decisions to issue certificates	18
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	11
(b) in respect of all defects	7
Number of undertakings given by landlords to carry out all repairs listed by tenants	7
Number of landlords undertakings refused by Local Authority	Nil
Number of certificates issued	11

It will be seen that there were 17 applications for Certificates under the Act to which must be added two previous applications received at the end of 1957 and which were dealt with during the current year. Of these applications, in only one case was a decision made not to issue a Certificate as, in this particular case, the outstanding works of repair had been completed before the application came to be considered.

General

The allocation of Council owned houses to occupiers of unfit houses is the responsibility of the Housing Committee. It is necessary to work in close co-operation, therefore, with the Housing Manager and it is gratifying to report that such co-operation has been readily given, not only by the officials but by the Housing Committee itself. Such action has largely prevented that unsatisfactory state of affairs where tenants are left occupying condemned property for very long periods.

With the completion of 93 new houses, the number now built in the District since 1920 is 3,783 or 64% of the 5,877 houses. This high percentage of comparatively modern houses ensures a fairly high standard of housing in the District.

RODENT CONTROL

The following statistical table gives a summary of the year's work carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator.

		Local Authority	Dwell- ing House	Agric- ultur- al	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Total
Total number of properties		15	5740	94	503	6352
Number of inspections		35	52	67	51	205
Number of Infested Properties	Rats	5	10	20	9	44
	Mice	4	25	Nil	12	41
Number of Treatments by Local Authority		14	35	16	19	84

It was not necessary to ask for authority to serve any statutory notices during the year as all treatments found to be necessary were agreed with the owners concerned.

In addition to the recorded inspections, your Public Health Inspectors also take note of any evidence of rat or mouse infestation when visiting properties on other duties. In this way, a fairly good check is maintained on the incidence in the area.

The annual test baiting of the sewerage system of the District took place during the month of May. It is pleasing to report that nowhere in the system could there be found any evidence of rats, even after the bait had been placed in position in the sewer manholes for a considerable time. In view of this information, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food agreed that it would not be necessary to carry out any further treatments of the sewerage system during the year.

An important development occurred during the year in connection with the treatment of agricultural property. Following upon an investigation into Civil Service practices, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had decided that their own organisation for dealing with rat and mouse destruction services on agricultural properties was to be closed down. The Ministry had worked on an annual contract system for treatments and as from the 1st April no more such contracts were to be entered into.

This development was discussed in great detail and with some concern at the North Western Workable Area Committee which consists of Local Authorities in this part of the country and it was felt there were some Local Authorities who may wish to introduce a contract service of their own where no satisfactory alternative services were to be set up. Local Authorities have always had a duty to ensure that agricultural properties were kept reasonably free from such vermin but it had not been their practice in the past to enter into service contracts. Their powers were confined mainly to inspection and the giving of advice and of course enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. This decision considerably affected the position in Leyland as a considerable number of agricultural properties had been serviced regularly under contracts with the Ministry. The Council finally decided to set up their own agricultural contract service and the scheme was prepared and put into operation towards the end of the year. All persons previously holding contracts with the Ministry were contacted as their contracts expired and most of them agreed to take out contracts with ourselves. By the end of the year twenty-two agreements had been signed.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A further five conversions were made from the Pail Closet system to that of a properly flushed water closet and connected to the main sewer. The pails at three further houses were taken out of use following re-housing of the tenants due to operative Demolition Orders on their houses. The number of pails, therefore, requiring weekly emptying was reduced by eight and for the first time brings the total number of pails in the District to below 100, the total number now being 98.

In addition to these, five houses served by the septic tank system of drainage were connected to the main sewer. A long hoped for improvement took place towards the end of the year with the laying of a new 9" sewer at the Earnshaw Bridge end of Longmeanygate. There are twenty properties along this particular part of Longmeanygate, eleven of which are served by pail closets and nine by septic tanks. It is interesting to record that a scheme was prepared for this part of Longmeanygate by the Engineer and Surveyor in 1956. On going to tender at that time, the lowest figure was £4,758 which the Council regarded as excessive for the work to be done, and the scheme was deferred. Following representations in 1958 made by ten of the occupiers still served by pail closets, the Council decided to ask for prices again from Contractors. On this occasion the prices quoted were much nearer the estimate for the job which was completed for the sum of £3,353.

The Department continued to provide a service for the freeing of choked drains and sewers and a total of 169 blockages were cleared. Routine inspections of drainage work carried out by private contractors were made throughout the year as and when necessary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Routine enquiries, where appropriate, were carried out into all notified cases of infectious disease. Where necessary admission to hospital was arranged. Disinfection was also carried out in houses where the following cases occurred.

Scarlet Fever 38

In cases nursed at home suitable disinfectant was made available free of charge and advice given on isolation. The small tins of strong disinfectant for household use continued to be available on request.

SHOPS

Routine inspections were made throughout the year on the relevant provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, not only with regard to those provisions which are the responsibility of this Authority but also those provisions of the Act delegated from the County Council to this Authority. A total of 226 inspections were made as against 217 the previous year.

FOOD

Slaughterhouses

A total of $17\frac{1}{2}$ Cwts. of meat and offal from the slaughterhouses were rejected as being unfit for human consumption owing to disease or other abnormal condition. The following table details the type of animals slaughtered at the two private slaughterhouses in the district.

	Cattle excl. cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	38	299	2	1199	122
Number inspected	38	299	2	1199	122
All diseases except Tuberculosis - Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	13	140	1	136	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	30.4%	40.6%	50%	11.3%	Nil
Tuberculosis only - whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	48	Nil	Nil	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	13.1%	16%	Nil	Nil	1.6%
Number of carcasses found to be affected with cysticercus bovis	One - cold storage effected				

The practice of Sunday slaughtering appears to have become established in the District throughout the year, which means that inspection services must also be arranged on these days. Approximately 50% of the animals slaughtered, as shown in the previous table, were done on Sundays. Many representations have been made at national level to obtain some control over such practices but so far to no avail. It does appear to be an anomaly that public slaughterhouses throughout the country are closed at weekend except during certain short peak slaughtering periods, whereas private slaughterhouses can slaughter at any time they like to suit the convenience of the owners.

The meat marking system is still being operated in the District and all animals slaughtered in Leyland were stamped with an inspection mark in accordance with Regulation 15 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952.

Other Foods

The following are details of food which was inspected and found unfit for human consumption and duly surrendered by the owners.

Raisins		15 lbs.
Ham	(Tinned)	59 lbs.
Ox Tongue	"	7 lbs.
Meat	"	92 lbs.
Vegetables	"	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Fruit	"	20 lbs.
Tomatoes	"	1000 grams.
Fish	"	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Milk	"	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pts.
Meat	(Fresh)	312 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Meat	(Cooked)	22 lbs.

The number of hawkers and their premises registered under the provisions of Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, is given below.

Registered Hawkers	26
Registered Premises	9

The following milk licences (including supplementary) were issued during the year under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949.

Tuberculin Tested	15
Pasteurised	18
Sterilised	32

There was no refusal to grant or revocation of a licence during the year.

The number of registered milk distributors in the district at the end of the year was as follows.

Own dairies in the district	3
Dairy farmers in the district	2
Dairies outside the district	11
Milk shops in the district	18

There were, in addition, a total of 12 producer retailers operating in the district who are not required to be registered with the Local Authority. This number is not official but is based on observations and used for sampling purposes, etc.

The following are details of ice cream premises registered.

Manufacture and sale	3
Sale only	66

DISINFESTATION

In the report for last year a full history of the gooseberry red mite (*bryobia praetiosa*) was given, and the opinion was expressed that an insecticide called Malathion appeared to be most effective. A total of 219 houses were recorded as requiring treatment, 73 on the Wade Hall Estate and 146 on the Broadfield Estate. During 1958 the mite appeared again during their hatching time in April and May but in much smaller quantities than in previous years. Some houses treated in 1957 showed no signs of infestation whatsoever. A total of 160 houses did, however, require treatment, 75 on the Wade Hall Estate and 85 on the Broadfield Estate. Again, the second very wet summer in succession favoured their breeding but it is encouraging to report that after the May treatments had been completed no further infestations were reported for the rest of the year. As the species usually returns to the houses in the autumn their incidence would appear to be under control.

Verminous Insects

The District still remains remarkably free from the verminous insects, fleas and bed bugs. Treatments of minor infestations, however, were necessary at two houses where small numbers of bed bugs had been seen and at one house to deal with an infestation of fleas. With modern methods of control which utilise insecticides with a residual effect, there is no reason why any household should be troubled. All the cases treated were successful at the first application.

Other Insects

Under this category a great number of insects of all descriptions are dealt with. Many of them are simply inhabitants of the garden which accidentally gain admittance to the house. Householders, however, are encouraged if in any doubt to consult the Department, and we can usually offer useful advice as to the best method of dealing with them. Other more familiar creatures such as ants, cockroaches and earwigs still make their appearance. Two wasps nests and one wild bees nest, established too close to houses for comfort, were also dealt with.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly service for the collection of household refuse was maintained throughout the year.

The public of Leyland have come to expect this service although a weekly collection is sometimes extremely difficult to maintain. In this service, the heaviest amount of material falls to be removed during the winter period. It also happens that this is the time when sickness is more prevalent amongst the staff and the days are not long enough to permit overtime working.

The following table gives an indication of the cost of the cleansing service expressed as a percentage of the overall rate demand and a comparison is made on this basis with previous years. A wage increase was awarded in May amounting to $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per hour, bringing the basic wage for refuse collectors to $4/0\frac{1}{4}$ d per hour, and drivers $4/1\frac{1}{4}$ d per hour.

	1938/39	1952/53	1955/56	1957/58
Population	12,680	14,920	17,400	18,030
Number of Houses	4,092	4,925	5,728	5,877
Tonnage removed (estimated)	80 Tons Per Week	90 Tons Per Week	116 Tons Per Week	120 Tons Per Week
Net Cost	£2,876	£6,973	£9,334	£11,073
Amount of General Rate	13/-	21/6d	24/-	18/-
Rateable Value	£71,063	£94,701	£112,955	£187,044
Sum Represented by 1d Rate	£250	£365	£440	£752
Net cost of services expressed as a percentage of annual rate yield	7.4%	7.4%	6.9%	6.6%

The net cost shown excludes the cost of the Municipal Bin Scheme as this was not in operation in 1938/39.

The following table of the total cost per week for refuse collection and disposal to each house in the district compares the trend since 1938/1939.

	Cost Per Week Per House
1938/39	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d
1952/53	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
1953/54	7d
1954/55	7d
1955/56	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
1956/57	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
1957/58	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d

Storage of Household Refuse

The Municipal Owned Dustbin Scheme, which has been established for over 9 years continued in operation, the 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ cubic feet bin to the British Standard Specification No. 792 : 1947, being supplied. A summary of the cost of the scheme since its inception at the beginning of the financial year 1949/50 is given below.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cost expressed in terms of</u> <u>1d Rate</u>
1949/1950	1.6 pence
1950/1951	1.4 "
1951/1952	1.7 "
1952/1953	1.8 "
1953/1954	1.1 "
1954/1955	1.0 "
1955/1956	1.7 "
1956/1957	1.6 "
1957/1958	1.0 "
1958/1959	1.2 "

Collection

The vehicles employed in the Department were :-

- 1 - 10 cubic yard side loader Fordson (January, 1949)
- 1 - 10 cubic yard side loader Dennis (April, 1952)
- 1 - 16/18 cubic yard rear loader Shelvoke & Drewry
Fore & Aft Tipper (March, 1954)
- 1 - 16/18 cubic yard rear loader Shelvoke & Drewry
Fore & Aft Tipper (July, 1955)
- 1 - 5 Cwt. Ford Thames Van (July, 1956)

With the continued growth of the District, all the vehicles are now fully employed throughout the working week. This means that it is extremely difficult to arrange for repairs to be done.

Disposal

The Dawson Lane tip continued in operation throughout the year in accordance with the long term agreement drawn up between ourselves and the Worden Estate in 1956. The site provides ample tipping space, is well removed from centres of habitation and is readily accessible from the public highway.

One large industrial firm continues to use the tip on contract terms. As there is a very large proportion of rubber in this material, it has now been arranged for it to be incorporated into our own refuse which ensures that it is covered very soon after bringing on to the site. The firm also make available all their boiler ashes for covering purposes. This arrangement is satisfactory to both sides and considerably reduces the fire hazard which arises when such combustible material as rubber is left lying about. The number of casual loads of trade refuse does, of course, vary considerably from week to week. A total number of 230 loads were received during the year on a cash basis of 3/-d per load.

It is becoming increasingly evident that in order to adequately control this site and dispose of soil as and when it arises, it will be necessary in the near future to consider the use of mechanical aids.

Salvage

Once again the income received from the sale of salvageable items reached over £5,000. There was, however, a considerable reduction in the income received from the sale of household tins, this figure dropping from £204 to £35. This was caused entirely by factors outside our control in that this type of scrap was no longer required by the steel manufacturers. Preston Corporation, to whom the tins were sold for baling, were unable to dispose of any material of this type at all. Extensive enquiries throughout the District and from the steel companies failed to find any outlet. The practice of separating such tins, therefore, was discontinued early in the year. The following table, however, shows that the value recovered per head of population is still a very high one.

	Population	Value Sold	Value per head of population
		£	S. D.
1952	14,780	3,936	5. 4.
1953	14,920	3,787	5. 1.
1954	16,020	4,229	5. 3.
1955	16,520	4,923	6. 0.
1956	17,400	5,147	5. 11.
1957	17,800	5,119	5. 9.
1958	18,030	5,089	5. 7.

Comparative Table - Weight of Salvage Collected and Sold.

	1958				1957			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Paper	399	10	0	0	362	13	1	0
Kitchen Waste	416	1	1	0	454	6	2	0
Rags	3	2	1	18	3	16	1	0
Sacking		6	1	14		11	2	0
Carpets		7	3	0	1	2	1	8
Woollens		4	0	24		3	0	13
String		7	0	14		3	2	0
Brass			3	8			1	7
Lead		1	0	2				25
Copper		1	0	20			1	25
Gun Metal	-	-	-	-				16
Aluminium		1	0	24		2	1	8
Cast Iron	2	16	0	0	3	4	2	0
Loose Scrap	3	9	1	0	-	-	-	-
Tins	7	15	2	0	45	5	2	0
Miscellaneous		8	1	0			1	12
	834.	12.	1.	12.	871.	10.	1.	2.

Comparative Table - Value of Salvage Sold

	1958			1957		
	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.
Paper	3282	18	1	2978	17	0
Kitchen Waste	1648	8	0	1760	9	11
Rags	46	16	2	87	13	8
Sacking	3	16	6	9	4	0
Carpets	1	9	5	6	13	11
Woollens	15	14	8	16	14	10
String	1	6	6	1	1	0
Brass	3	0	8	1	10	11
Lead	2	17	0		17	6
Copper	7	3	0	3	12	10
Gun Metal	-	-	-	1	6	8
Aluminium	5	13	6	15	2	0
Cast Iron	28	4	0	32	5	0
Loose Scrap	5	3	10	-	-	-
Tins	34	19	9	203	14	6
Miscellaneous	1	13	0		8	7
	5089.	4.	1.	5119.	12.	4.

Total weights of and value received for salvageable items can make quite impressive figures, depending upon the size of the area and its population. For comparative purposes, however, it is usual to reduce such figures to the average weight collected for each 1,000 of population per month and the following table provides such information.

Yield Table - Comparative Figures

	Weight Per 1,000 Population Per Month	
	Waste Paper Cwts	Kitchen Waste Cwts
1946	19.6	31.4
1947	19.2	30.2
1948	24.5	38.1
1949	30.9	38.5
1950	23.0	37.6
1951	25.6	41.8
1952	25.1	40.3
1953	32.8	41.4
1954	33.5	44.5
1955	35.9	43.8
1956	35.9	43.1
1957	33.9	42.5
1958	37.0	38.5

Kitchen Waste

A considerable disruption in the arrangements for the disposal of kitchen waste occurred during the year. Towards the end of February information was received from Preston Corporation that their kitchen waste Concentration Plant was closing down at the end of March. This Local Authority had received our kitchen waste since the inception of the scheme in 1940 and there had been no previous indication that such a decision was to be made. It was ascertained that the Corporations of Bolton and Birkenhead would be willing to purchase our kitchen waste.

There were, therefore, three possible courses of action, namely:

- (a) To cease marketing kitchen waste altogether.
- (b) To sell to Bolton Corporation.
- (c) To sell to Birkenhead Corporation.

With regard to (a), apart from there being no mandate from the Committee to discontinue the salvage of kitchen waste, such a decision would bring about a great many difficulties and would probably give rise to unsatisfactory conditions at premises which have been accustomed to the service. Much of this material is household waste and in any case would have to be picked up as refuse. To mix the quantity we obtain with our ordinary household refuse would also produce many problems with our disposal by tipping method. Lastly, I feel it is morally wrong for a public body to destroy any material which has a salvage value and particularly material which when processed, forms a valuable addition to the animals feeding stuffs of the country. We are not self supporting in such material and millions of pounds are spent yearly on importing foreign grain.

(b) Bolton Corporation were anxious to purchase but would only offer £3.17.6d per ton delivered at Bolton. This was the same price that Preston Corporation were paying us for delivery at Preston.

(c) Birkenhead Corporation offered £4 per ton here in Leyland and were prepared to pay for delivery to Birkenhead in private transport provided suitable arrangements could be made (a) with a private contractor for carriage and (b) for suitable transfer arrangements of the kitchen waste on to another vehicle in Leyland. Considerable negotiation and discussion took place between myself, the Chairman and T. Pickles and Sons, Corn Merchants, Preston, who were already purchasing large quantities of processed kitchen waste from Birkenhead and who were willing to take in our unprocessed waste from Leyland. With regard to the transfer arrangements, it was not practicable either for ourselves or Mr. Pickles to hand load by shovels on to his vehicle as we could hardly spare the labour and time involved and he could certainly not allow his vehicle to stand idle for an hour or two each day whilst such a method of loading was going on. I therefore contacted a firm who had built and erected several steel hoppers of the type used for holding sand and gravel. As such a hopper had already been installed at our tip in Dawson Lane prior to our taking it over, there was the necessary difference in levels already available and some retaining walls, concrete bases etc. had still not been covered over. The cost of supplying and erecting such a hopper would be about £150.

In view of the above considerations, it was decided with the concurrence of the Chairman of the Committee, as a matter of urgency, to arrange for Birkenhead to receive the kitchen waste and arrangements were made for the erection of a hopper at Dawson Lane. These arrangements have been continued throughout the year.

General

Comparative Table - Gross Income from Salvage

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£.	S.	D.
1940	253	1	2	0	429	0	0
1941	258	5	0	20	770	17	6
1942	699	12	2	20	2180	16	5
1943	762	14	2	0	2270	17	9
1944	600	2	2	0	1855	0	1
1945	508	4	2	3	1557	18	10
1946	454	11	2	13	1545	4	6
1947	434	16	3	0	1694	6	5
1948	553	15	2	16	2331	19	0
1949	616	15	3	23	2836	10	8
1950	548	13	1	24	2243	9	6
1951	628	10	0	19	4771	19	0
1952	633	6	0	13	3936	2	5
1953	690	8	2	11	3787	6	11
1954	782	5	3	1	4229	15	3
1955	833	18	2	25	4922	15	3
1956	884	19	3	13	5147	5	7
1957	871	10	1	2	5119	12	4
1958	834	12	1	12	5089	4	1
Total	11,850.	6.	0.	19.	56,720.	1.	6.

The following table has been prepared to show the average cost per ton obtained spread over all the different salvageable items since 1940 and may be read in conjunction with the table on Page 56.

Average Cost Per Ton of All Salvageable Sales

	£.	S.	D.
1940	1.	13.	11.
1941	2.	19.	8.
1942	3.	2.	5.
1943	2.	19.	7.
1944	3.	1.	10.
1945	3.	1.	4.
1946	3.	7.	11.
1947	3.	17.	11.
1948	4.	4.	2.
1949	4.	12.	0.
1950	4.	1.	8.
1951	7.	11.	9.
1952	6.	4.	4.
1953	5.	9.	9.
1954	5.	8.	2.
1955	5.	18.	1.
1956	5.	16.	1.
1957	5.	17.	5.
1958	6.	1.	11.

CLEAN AIR

Twenty-nine smoke observations were made on the various factory chimneys in the area and appropriate representations were made where dark smoke was being emitted. One coal burning Lancashire Boiler was removed and an oil-fired economic boiler fitted in its place. Further additional instrumentation at boiler plants took place which helped considerably boiler house staff in reducing emissions of dark smoke. On the whole, industry in Leyland would appear to be endeavouring to comply fully with the provisions of the Clean Air Act.

With regard to those provisions of the Clean Air Act which give the Local Authority the power to declare Smoke Control Areas, no further steps have yet been taken beyond approving in principle the creation of such areas. The provisions of the Act with regard to industry are mandatory, i.e. no discretion is given and the Local Authority must enforce the provisions of the Act.

With regard to Smoke Control Areas, however, these involve the complete prohibition of any smoke whatsoever from all premises, including private houses. The Ministry, in their Memorandum on Smoke Control Areas, emphasise that their establishment will be gradual; it will need to be undertaken in stages over a period of years in the larger towns. The Memorandum emphasises that the whole success of the operation will depend upon public support; upon people's understanding of the problems involved and their readiness to co-operate in smoke control measures. In the Interim Report of the Beaver Committee certain "black areas" were defined, the indication being that Authorities included in such areas should regard their smoke problem as urgently in need of attention. Enquiries from the Ministry have shown that Leyland is not included in a "black area."

LETHAL CHAMBER FOR DOMESTIC ANIMALS

This service, which started towards the end of 1951, operated throughout the year. The R.S.P.C.A. approved methods are used and as previously arranged, materials are supplied by the Society. The charge for both dogs and cats is 1/- per animal. As the apparatus is the property of the R.S.P.C.A. and in accordance with previous arrangements, one half the receipts are forwarded to the Society.

In October a new type of electric lethal chamber for dogs was installed. The apparatus is called an "Electrothanator" and its cost was borne by the R.S.P.C.A. The new system was introduced following research by the British Veterinary Association into the destruction of dogs by electrocution. The new system requires the animal to be handled more and it was at first thought to be more dangerous for the operator. This has, however, been overcome and there has been no difficulty in dealing with any animals brought in.

The following are details of animals destroyed during the year.

Authority for Destruction	Dogs	Cats	Kittens	Puppies
Owner	85	57	18	Nil
Police	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R.S.P.C.A.	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Total	85	58	18	Nil

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

Thirty-four licences for the storage of petroleum spirit and one for calcium carbide were issued during the year.

A new installation for the Ambulance Station in Moss Lane, Leyland, was subjected to pressure tests and found to be satisfactory. No licence was issued as the Station was only expected to be completed early in 1959. Stocks of Certificates required by the Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1957, were maintained for re-sale to licensees as and when required.

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